The Powerade Series

Australia v New Zealand

JUNE 9 2005

FULHAM'S CRAVEN COTTAGE

MATCHDAY PROGRAMME £3.00

Official Partners

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Australia v New Zealand: A Historical Perspective

The Future is Asia

Herbert Makes History

Focus on: Scott Chipperfield

AUSTRALIA FOOTBALL

DURING THE MATCH, ALL PLAYERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO HIT THE BOTTLE.

IT AIN'T OVER 'TIL YOU SAY IT'S OVER

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Timetable Of Events

18:30 Turnstiles Open
18:55 Players Warm-up
19:38 Teams enter the stadium
National Anthems
Fair Play Handshake
Coin Toss
19:45 Kick-off
Australia v New Zealand
20:30 Half Time
20:45 Second Half
21:30 Full Time

No extra time, kicks from the penalty mark or post match presentations

Welcome from the CEO

Thursday June 9th 2005

On behalf of Chairman Frank Lowy and the Board of Football Federation Australia, it is with great pleasure that I welcome our distinguished guests, players, officials, and supporters to Craven Cottage for the Powerade Series match between Australia and New Zealand.

It is always a special occasion when our two great nations meet on the sporting field and tonight will be no exception in a very unique setting for this match.

Playing home matches at Craven Cottage has been a success and I'd like to thank the management team and staff at Fulham for their support.

It is a very exciting time for the sport in Australia and with increases in participation and the proposed move into Asia there are even brighter days ahead.

We also have the Hyundai A-League kicking off in August and we got a taste of things to come when Sydney FC won the Club World Championship qualifiers held in May.

As we continue on the 'Road To Germany', this match will provide important preparation ahead of the Confederations Cup in Germany which gets underway next week.

Our team will be in action many more times this year, both at home and abroad and we hope you continue to join us for what is sure to be a thrilling ride towards what we hope will be our first World Cup berth in 32 years.

Enjoy the match and we look forward to seeing you back here for our match against Colombia on 16 August.

John O'Neill
Chief Executive Officer
Football Federation Australia

Previous Encounters

Head To Head - Summary

Played	61
Australia Wins	37
New Zealand Wins	13
Draws	11
Australia Goals	149
New Zealand Goals	69

Best Results

Australia **W10-0**
(played 11.07.36 in Wellington)
New Zealand **W4-1**
(played 30.06.23 in Newcastle)

Last Time They Met

29th May 2004 - Adelaide (OFC Nations Cup/World Cup qualifying)
Australia 1 New Zealand 0
(Marco Bresciano 40')

Australia: Zeljko Kalac (gk); Simon Colosimo (Jade North 54'), Stephen Laybutt (Adrian Madaschi 73'), Tony Vidmar (c), Stan Lazaridis, Brett Emerton, Vince Grella, Josip Skoko, Mark Bresciano, Max Vieri (Mile Sterjovski 68'), John Aloisi

New Zealand: Mark Paston, David Mulligan, Steven Old, Che Bunce, Tony Lochhead, Ivan Vicelich, Noah Hickey (Brent Fisher 51'), Leo Bertos (Shane Smeltz 69'), Simon Elliott, Vaughan Coveny, Raffaele De Gregorio (Duncan Oughton 78')

All-time Australian Player Records In Australia - New Zealand Matches

Most games **13**
Graham Arnold (1986-1997), Paul Wade (1986-1995)
Most goals **13**
George Smith (1936-1938)
Most goals in a match **2**
Peter Ollerton (27.03.77), Eddie Krncevic (25.04.81), Warren Spink (16.10.88), Graham Arnold (12.03.89), Brett Emerton (20.06.01), David Zdrilic (24.06.01)

All-time New Zealand Player Records In Australia - New Zealand Matches

Most games **17**
Michael McGarry (1986-1997)
Most goals **7**
George Campbell (1922-1923)
Most goals in a match **4**
George Campbell (30.06.23)

The history of sporting rivalry between Australia and New Zealand has been well documented and this is no less true of football. For both nations, trans-Tasman matches are the most common in the round-ball game dating all the way back to the initial encounter in 1922. There have been 61 encounters going back to a 3-1 win for the Kiwis at what was undoubtedly a freezing Carisbrooke Park in Dunedin for the 8,000 spectators on hand in June of that year.

Both nations can point to significant moments when victory meant more than just another win. The results of Australia and New Zealand matches have variously created history, changed the course of World Cup destiny or seen coaches axed.

Fans of the Qantas Socceroos may point to the volume of wins with the Australians claiming 37 wins against New Zealand's 13, but perhaps the most famous result was achieved by the Kiwis on a bumpy Sydney Cricket Ground in 1981, with the match still living long in the memories of both sets of supporters but for very different reasons. A 2-0 win for New Zealand, their first in Australia in 27 years, gave the team the belief that ultimately saw them qualify for the 1982 World Cup in what was then the most games played by a team to qualify for a World Cup. Conversely the result shocked the Australians, who had high hopes for their team after World Cup qualification just 8 years earlier, and sent the nation's football fans into despair, not to mention their much-travelled coach - the controversial Rudi Gutendorf - on the next plane home.

Similarly narrow 1-0 wins for the Kiwis have seen their team claim the Oceania Nations Cup against the odds in 1998 and 2002 resulting in qualification for the FIFA Confederations Cup on both occasions.

The Australians though have effectively ended the hopes of a repeat of 'Espana 82' for the Kiwis in each World Cup campaign since 1989 having not dropped a point in such matches since then.

Tonight sees history made with the first ever match played between the two nations in London however it is not the first match to be played on neutral soil. Matches have been played in Tahiti and Indonesia, but undoubtedly the most significant was played in Saigon in 1967. Yes Vietnam, yes during a war, and reports from the day indeed state that the rumblings of war could literally be heard in the distance. The match ended in a 5-3 win for the Australians - a result which helped them on the way to the nation's first international trophy in the shape of the Vietnam National Day Soccer Tournament - but it was the unique context that made the match all the more significant.

The historians however might go back even further in what is perhaps an omen for tonight's game. Today is 72 years to the day that Australia achieved its first ever full international victory with a 2-1 scoreline at the Brisbane Cricket Ground against .... New Zealand.

The Road to Germany

2005 FIFA Confederations Cup / 2006 FIFA World Cup

Oceania 2006 World Cup Qualifiers (2004 Oceania Nations Cup)

Stage 1

Split into two groups of five, Stage 1 featured all Oceania Football Confederation members, except Australia and New Zealand, who were automatically seeded into Stage 2. American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tahiti, Tonga and Vanuatu played in Samoa and Solomon Islands between 11-20 May. Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tahiti and Vanuatu won through to Stage 2.

Stage 2

Australia, New Zealand, plus the four Stage 1 qualifiers (Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tahiti and Vanuatu) played each other once in a league system between May 29 - June 6 in Adelaide.
The winner, Australia, and runner-up, Solomon Islands, advanced to Stage 3 (Oceania Nations Cup Final/Oceania World Cup play-off).

Stage 3 (Oceania Nations Cup Final)

Australia and the Solomon Islands played-off over two legs with Australia re-claiming the Oceania Nations Cup title 11-1 on aggregate after a 5-1 win in Honiara and a 6-0 win in Sydney. The result ensured Australia's qualification for the FIFA Confederations Cup Germany 2005

FIFA Confederations Cup Germany 2005 (15-29 June 2005).

15 June	Australia v Germany, Frankfurt, 9.00pm
18 June	Australia v Argentina, Nuremberg, 8.45pm
21 June	Australia v Tunisia, Leipzig, 8.45pm
25/26 June	Semi Finals, Nuremberg, Hanover
29 June	Final, Frankfurt (all match times local)

Stage 3 (World Cup)

Australia and Solomon Islands to play-off home and away in September 2005 for the right to advance to the Oceania/South America play-off.

FIFA International Match dates – 3 and 7 September.

Oceania/South America play-off

The winner of Stage 3 (World Cup) will play-off in November 2005 against the fifth placed South American nation for a berth at the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany.

FIFA International Match dates – 12 and 16 November

The draw for the 2006 FIFA World Cup is due to take place on 9 December.

2005 FIFA World Youth Championship (Netherlands, 10 June – 2 July)

10 June	Australia v Benin, Kerkrade, 4pm
15 June	Australia v Netherlands, Kerkrade, 8.30pm
18 June	Australia v Japan, Kerkrade, 4pm
21/22 June	Round of 16
24/25 June	Quarter Finals
28 June	Semi Finals
2 July	Final, Utrecht

The Future is Asia

By Michael Cockerill

How much football has changed is confirmed by today's match - a fixture between two Antipodean rivals played on British soil reflects the globalisation of the world game.

How much football will continue to change is borne out by the realisation that this is, in all likelihood, the last time the Qantas Socceroos and the All Whites will be separated only by the Tasman Sea. From next year Australia plans to move from Oceania and into Asia, handing New Zealand the responsibility of becoming the new standard bearers of football in the South Pacific. Australia, for its part, will have to start all over again - a small fish in a much bigger pond, but a pond rich in the sort of nutrients which will allow the sport to grow, and flourish.

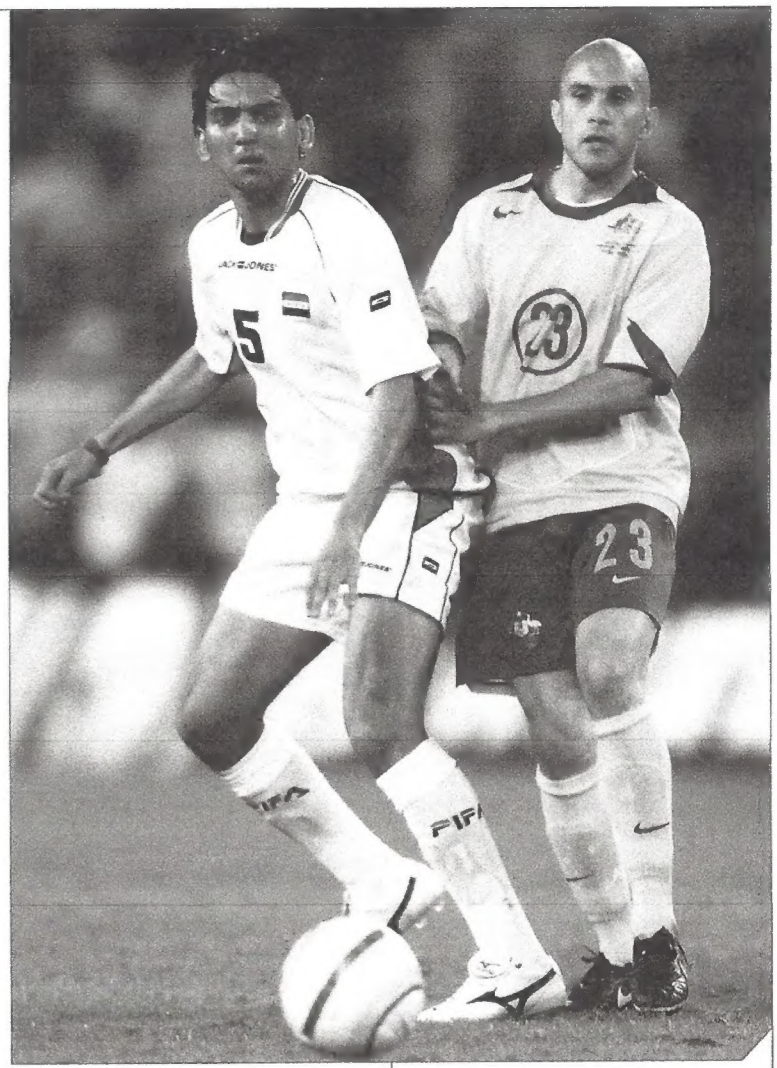
Getting into Asia has been the dream - perhaps pipedream - of various Australian administrators for the last 30 years. As recently as 12 months ago it seemingly remained an impossibility. But new Football Federation Australia boss Frank Lowy doesn't often take no for an answer, and after a few months of shuttle diplomacy, suddenly - miraculously - he had prised the door open.

In March, the Asian Football Confederation extended an invitation to Australia to become its 46th member, while in April the Oceania Football Confederation gave Australia the blessing to leave. All that is left is for the world governing body, FIFA, to rubber-stamp the process at its Congress in Morocco in September, and Australia's move to the north will be complete.

"Transforming" is how Lowy has described the impact of the change, and even that is an understatement. Getting into Asia provides the launching pad for football to seriously challenge the dominance of rival codes - how seriously is limited only by imagination. For arguably the first time, the game is now in control of its own destiny.

On the park, as Qantas Socceroo coach Frank Farina is keen to point out, things will not be easier, but fairer. Off the park, the scope is there for the sport to fully explore its commercial potential.

Europe may remain the first world of football, but Asia is the new world. It is not inconceivable that one day Asia will eclipse Europe as the financial epicentre of the game. Certainly it is the region with the greatest untapped potential. Australia can plug into this, and offer something in return. Indeed it was Lowy's success in convincing the AFC's marketing partners that its sponsorship and television properties would be enhanced by inviting Australia into the fold that proved to be the circuit-breaker. With similar time zones to east Asia, and an advanced domestic market, the AFC agreed that Australia brought value to the bargaining table. Given time, that value may reach as much as six or seven percent - not bad in terms of Asia's multi-billion dollar football economy. It will certainly be more expensive for Australia to participate in Asia, but the associated commercial possibilities should enable us to pay our way.



Having overcome the fiscal debate, Australia has had to win the football argument as well. It says much about the progress of the Asian teams that instead of being afraid of increased competition, they have welcomed it. Australia will move into Asia as a Category A team - ranked alongside regional powerhouses such as Japan, South Korea, Saudi Arabia and Iran. It's going to get tougher at the top, but that's how Asia wants it. No longer are Asian teams content to make up the numbers in FIFA competitions, and they believe Australia will enhance their claims.

So what, ultimately, does all this mean for Australian teams? Generally speaking, it means Australia will have to work harder, coach better, prepare better, and be mentally stronger, to reach the world stage. Australia will not appear in FIFA competitions as often as it did as the representative of Oceania, but ultimately our teams, and our players, will be better for the experience. In what way?

THE SENIOR NATIONAL TEAM

The seven-day curse will be gone, forever. Three generations of Qantas Socceroos have had to deal with the stomach-churning anxiety of the World Cup play-offs - a home-and-away all-or-nothing excursion which makes or breaks the four-year cycle. No margin for error, no second chances. Given that two of the last three World Cup campaigns have been decided in South America - as will be the case again this year - it is a fair argument that the Qantas Socceroos have the toughest qualifying assignment of any national team in the world. Asia will change all that - the Qantas Socceroos will be placed in one of the groups of six for the second stage and like most other teams around the world will be able to lose some games and still go through. Asia currently has four-and-a-half World Cup spots, and Australia has realistic ambitions of being one of those teams. There will be no easy games, but neither do the Qantas Socceroos have reason to fear. In tandem with the second-tier competitions such as the Asian Cup and either the East Asian Championships or the Tiger Cup (depending on which zone Australia joins), the Qantas Socceroos will enjoy a steady diet of between 10-16 meaningful games every year. This will aggravate the club versus country dilemma, but only in the short term. The move to Asia will eventually mean more of our players will stay at home.

THE JUNIOR NATIONAL TEAMS (under-23, under-20, under-17)

No more free ride to FIFA competitions through Asia (only once in 26 years has Australia failed to qualify from Oceania at any of these age levels). In some ways the youth teams will be hardest hit by

Ahmed Elrich on the fly in the last international for the Qantas Socceroos against Indonesia in Perth in a match to raise funds for tsunami relief.

the shift, but if you look through the prism of player development then it should mean our best talent is better prepared, and more match-hardened, by the time it reaches the Socceroos. With European clubs becoming more discerning, and the Hyundai A-League becoming more appealing, there will also be more opportunity to work properly with young players on individual aspects of their game.

WOMEN'S TEAMS
(senior and under-19)

Having racked up cricket scores against Oceania minnows for years, the Qantas Matildas will find the going much tougher in Asia, where teams like North Korea, South Korea, China and Japan are extremely competitive. Australia's record against these teams has been mixed, but current coach Tom Sermanni has worked in Asia and has an understanding of what to expect.

The bonus for the Qantas Matildas, and the national youth team, is that they should receive a better share of FFA funding in order to build the squad, and prepare it properly. What that means is that if Australia does reach the World Cup, it will be better equipped to handle the pressure of tournament play - something that has been an achilles heel in the past.

HYUNDAI A-LEAGUE TEAMS

Arguably the biggest beneficiares of the move to Asia will be the teams in our fledgling Hyundai A-League. Regular international competition has traditionally by-passed Australian clubs, and combined with a 20-year drain of talent has sapped enthusiasm, morale, and belief in domestic club football. In that context, the arrival of a new league could hardly be better timed. Starting from 2006, the top two Hyundai A-League teams may qualify for the Asian Champions League (the winners of which will qualify for the FIFA Club World Championships), providing excitement during the domestic season, and ultimately a reason to come home for those players struggling to get regular game time with European clubs. That, in turn, will mean more home-based players will get picked for the national teams. From now on a player will be able to reach his potential - both at club and international level - by staying in Australia. The fans who were at time short-changed by slipping standards in the old NSL now have a reason to go to games again.

** Michael Cockerill is the football writer for The Sydney Morning Herald.*

Socceroos' Official Game Chant

(In the style of Baa Baa Black Sheep)

Baa baa white sheep have you any skill

no sir, no sir, we'll thrash you fifty nil

twenty for the manager

and twenty for the fans

and another ten from Emerton who plays like Superman.

nikefootball.com

Player Profiles: Australia

Socceroo Profiles as at 25 May 2005

Tim **CAHILL**

Born: 6-Dec-79, Sydney
Position: Midfielder
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [2004-2005] 6 games (7 goals)
A internationals: 6 games (7 goals)
Other australian representative honours: Olympic Games - 2004 finals (Athens)
Current Club: Everton (England)
Previous Clubs: Sydney United (NSW), Millwall (England)

Scott **CHIPPERFIELD**

Born: 30-Dec-75, Wollongong
Position: Midfielder
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [1998-2005] 35 games (10 goals)
A internationals: 35 games (10 goals)
Current Club: Basel (Switzerland)
Previous Clubs: Wollongong United (NSW), Wollongong Wolves (Australia)

Simon **COLOSIMO**

Born: 8-Jan-79, Melbourne
Position: Defender/Midfielder
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [1998-2005] 23 games (2 goals)
A internationals: 21 games (2 goals) / **Other internationals:** 2 games
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 20 - 1997 World Youth Championship qualifiers, 1999 World Youth Championship finals (Nigeria); Under 23 - 2000 Olympic Games finals (Sydney), Australian Schoolboy International 1996, Victorian Institute of Sport, Australian Institute of Sport 1996-1997
Current Club: Perth Glory (Australia)
Previous Clubs: Carlton (Australia), South Melbourne (Australia), Manchester City (England), Royal Antwerp (Belgium), Perth Glory (Australia), Parramatta Power (Australia), Pahang (Malaysia)

Ahmad **ELRICH**

Born: 30-May-81, Sydney
Position: Midfielder
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [2004-2005] 12 games (4 goals)
A internationals: 12 games (4 goals)
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 20 - 2001 World Youth Championship finals (Argentina); Under 23 - 2004 Olympic Games finals (Athens)
Current Club: Fulham (England)
Previous club: Parramatta Power (Australia), Busan Icons (South Korea)

Brett **EMERTON**

Born: 22-Feb-79, Sydney
Position: Midfielder/Defender
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [1998-2005] 42 games (10 goals)
A internationals: 37 games (9 goals)
Other internationals: 5 games (1 goal)
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 17 - 1995 U/17 World Championship finals (Ecuador); Under 20 - 1997 World Youth Championship finals (Malaysia), 1999 World Youth Championship finals (Nigeria); Under 23 - 2000 Olympic Games finals (Sydney)
New South Wales Academy of Sport
Australian Institute of Sport 1996
Current Club: Blackburn Rovers (England)
Previous Clubs: Sydney Olympic (Australia), Feyenoord (Holland)

Vince **GRELLA**

Born: 5-Oct-79, Melbourne
Position: Midfielder
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [1999-2005] 14 games
A internationals: 11 games
Other internationals: 3 games
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 20 - 1997 World Youth Championship finals (Malaysia), 1999 World Youth Championship finals (Nigeria); Under 23 - 2000 Olympic Games finals (Sydney) , Victorian Institute of Sport, Australian Institute of Sport 1996
Current Club: Parma (Italy)
Previous Clubs: Springvale City (Victoria), Canberra Cosmos (Australia), Carlton (Australia), Empoli (Italy), Ternana (Italy)

Zeljko **KALAC**

Born: 16-Dec-72, Sydney
Position: Goalkeeper
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [1992-2005] 50 games
A internationals: 47 games
Other internationals: 3 games
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 17 - 1989 U/17 World Championship squad member; Under 20 - 1991 World Youth Championship squad
Current Club: Perugia (Italy)
Previous Clubs: Sydney United (Australia), Leicester City (England), Roda JC Kerkrade (Holland)

Jon **MCKAIN**

Born: 21-Sep-82, Brisbane
Position: Defender
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [2004-2005] 5 games
A internationals: 5 games
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 20 - 2001 World Youth Championship finals (Argentina); Under 23 - 2004 Olympic Games finals (Athens), Queensland Academy of Sport
Current Club: National Bucharest (Romania)
Previous club: Brisbane Strikers (Australia)

Ljubo **MILICEVIC**

Born: 13-Feb-81, Melbourne
Position: Defender
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [2005] 1 game
A internationals: 1 game
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 20 - 2001 World Youth Cup finals (Argentina); Under 23 - 2004 Olympic Games qualifiers
Australian Institute of Sport 1998-1999
Victorian Institute of Sport
Current club: FC Thun (Switzerland)
Previous club (senior): Melbourne Knights (Australia), Perth Glory (Australia), Basel (Switzerland)

Craig **MOORE**

Born: 12-Dec-75, Sydney
Position: Defender
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [1995-2005] 28 games (2 goals)
A internationals: 26 games (2 goals)
Other internationals: 2 games
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 17 - 1991 U/17 World Championship finals (Italy); Under 20 - 1993 World Youth Championship finals (Australia); Under 23 - 1996 Olympic Games qualifiers
Other australian representative honours: Olympic Games - 2004 finals (Athens), Australian Schoolboy International 1992,Australian Institute of Sport 1992-1993

Current Club: uncontracted
Previous clubs: Rangers (Scotland), Crystal Palace (England), Borussia Monchengladbach (Germany)

Kevin **MUSCAT**

Born: 7-Aug-73, England
Position: Defender
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [1993-2004] 47 games (10 goals)
A internationals: 42 games (10 goals)
Other internationals: 5 games
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 20 - 1991 World Youth Championship finals (Portugal), 1993 World Youth Championship finals (Australia); Under 23 - 1992 Olympic Games lead-up matches, 1996 Olympic Games finals (Atlanta), Australian Institute of Sport 1990-1991
Current Club: Melbourne Victory (Australia)
Previous Clubs: Sunshine George Cross (Australia), Heidelberg (Australia), South Melbourne (Australia), Crystal Palace (England), Wolverhampton Wanderers (England), Rangers (Scotland), Millwall (England)

Lucas **NEILL**

Born: 9-Mar-78, Sydney
Position: Defender/Midfielder
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [1996-2005] 13 games
A internationals: 13 games
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 20 - 1997 World Youth Championship finals (Malaysia); Under 23 - 2000 Olympic Games finals (Sydney) , Australian Institute of Sport 1994-1995
Current Club: Blackburn Rovers (England)
Previous Clubs: Millwall (England)

Michael **PETKOVIC**

Born: 16-Jul-76, Perth
Position: Goalkeeper
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [1999-2001] 4 games
A internationals: 3 games
Other internationals: 1 game
Current Club: Trabzonspor (Turkey)
Previous Clubs: South Melbourne (Australia), Lillestrom (Norway)

Tony **POPOVIC**

Born: 4-Jul-73, Sydney
Position: Defender
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [1994-2005] 51 games (8 goals)
A internationals: 49 games (7 goals)
Other internationals: 2 games (1 goal)
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 17 - 1989 U/17 World Championship finals (Scotland); Under 20 - 1991 World Youth Championship finals (Portugal); Under 23 - 1992 Olympic Games finals (Barcelona)
Current Club: Crystal Palace (England)
Previous Clubs: Sydney United (Australia), Sanfrecce Hiroshima (Japan)

Mark **SCHWARZER**

Born: 6-Oct-72, Sydney
Position: Goalkeeper
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [1993-2005] 31 games
A internationals: 30 games / Other internationals: 1 game
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 17 - 1989 U/17 World Championship finals (Scotland); Under 20 - 1991 World Youth Championship qualifiers
Current Club: Middlesbrough (England)
Previous Clubs: Marconi Stallions (Australia), Dynamo Dresden (Germany), Kaiserslautern (Germany), Bradford City (England)

Josip **SKOKO**

Born: 10-Dec-75, Mount Gambier
Position: Midfielder
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [1997-2005] 37 games (6 goals)
A internationals: 36 games (6 goals) / Other internationals: 1 game
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 20 - 1995 World Youth Championship finals (Qatar)
Other australian representative honours: Olympic games - 2000 finals (Sydney)
Australian Institute of Sport 1992-1993
Current Club: Genclerbirligi (Turkey)
Previous Clubs: North Geelong (Victoria), Hajduk Split (Croatia), Genk (Belgium)

Mile **STERJOVSKI**

Born: 27-May-79, Wollongong
Position: Striker/Midfielder
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [2000-2005] 18 games (3 goals)
A internationals: 18 games (3 goals)
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 20 - 1999 World Youth Championship finals (Nigeria); Under 23 - 2000 Olympic Games lead-up matches
Australian Institute of Sport 1996-1997
Current Club: Basel (Switzerland)
Previous Clubs: Wollongong United (NSW), Wollongong Wolves (Australia), Sydney United (Australia), Parramatta Power (Australia), Lille (France)

Archie **THOMPSON**

Born: 23-Oct-78, New Zealand
Position: Striker
Socceroo honours: All internationals [2001-2005] 9 games (17 goals)
A internationals: 9 games (17 goals)
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 23 - 2000 Olympic Games lead-up matches
New South Wales Academy of Sport
Current Club: Melbourne Victory (Australia)
Previous Clubs: Bathurst (NSW), Morwell Falcons (Australia), Carlton (Australia), Marconi Stallions (Australia), Lierse (Belgium)

Michael **THWAITE**

Born: 2-May-83, Cairns
Position: Midfielder
Qantas Socceroos honours: n/a
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 20 - 2003 World Youth Championship finals (UAE); Under 23 - 2004 Olympic Games qualifiers
Current Club: National Bucharest (Romania)
Previous Clubs: Sydney University (NSW), Marconi Stallions (Australia)

Tony **VIDMAR**

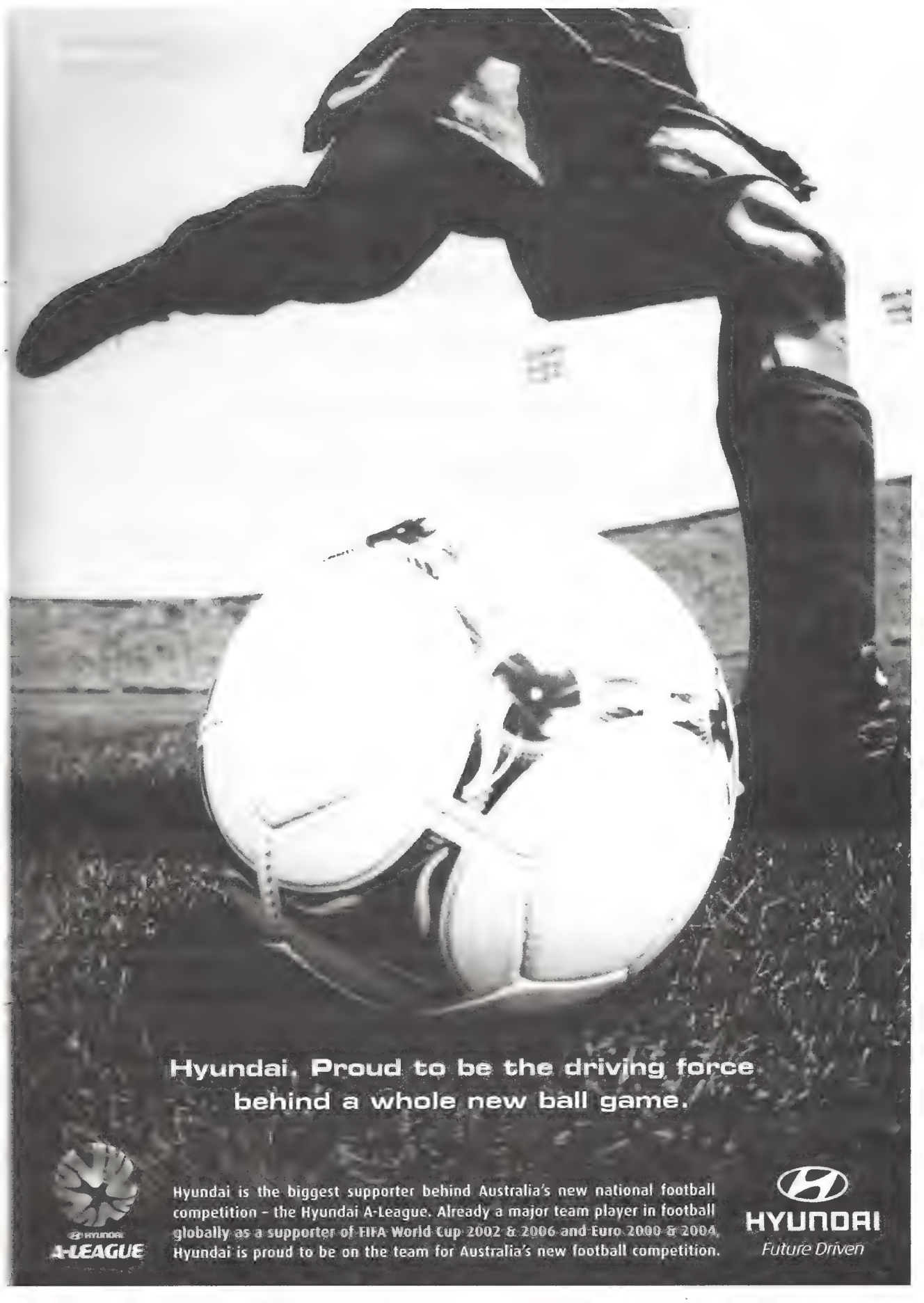
Born: 4-Jul-70, Adelaide
Position: Defender
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [1991-2005] 84 games (3 goals)
A internationals: 69 games (3 goals) / Other internationals: 15 games
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 23 - 1992 Olympic Games finals (Barcelona)
Australian Schoolboy International 1988
Current Club: Cardiff City (England)
Previous Clubs: Adelaide City (Australia), Ekeren (Belgium), NAC Breda (Holland), Rangers (Scotland), Middlesbrough (England)

Mark **VIDUKA**

Born: 9-Oct-75, Melbourne
Position: Striker
Socceroo honours: All internationals [1994-2004] 26 games (3 goals)
A internationals: 24 games (3 goals) / Other internationals: 2 games
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 20 - 1995 World Youth Championship finals (Qatar); Under 23 - 1996 Olympic Games finals (Atlanta)
Other australian representative honours: Olympic Games - 2000 finals (Sydney)
Australian Institute of Sport 1992-1993
Current Club: Middlesbrough (England)
Previous Clubs: Melbourne Knights (Australia), Dinamo Zagreb (Croatia), Celtic (Scotland), Leeds United (England)

Luke **WILKSHIRE**

Born: 2-Oct-81, Wollongong
Position: Midfielder
Qantas Socceroos honours: All internationals [2004-2005] 4 games
A internationals: 4 games
Underage Australian representative honours: Under 20 - 2001 World Youth Championship finals (Argentina); Under 23 - 2004 Olympic Games finals (Athens)
New South Wales Academy of Sport
Australian Institute of Sport 1998
Current Club: Bristol City (England)
Previous club: Middlesbrough (England)


Hyundai. Proud to be the driving force
behind a whole new ball game.
HYUNDAI
A-LEAGUE
Hyundai is the biggest supporter behind Australia's new national football competition – the Hyundai A-League. Already a major team player in football globally as a supporter of FIFA World Cup 2002 & 2006 and Euro 2000 & 2004, Hyundai is proud to be on the team for Australia's new football competition.
HYUNDAI
Future Driven

Squad List: Australia

Head of Delegation: Phillip Wolanski
Head Coach: Frank Farina
Team Manager: Gary Moretti
Assistant Coach: Graham Arnold
Goalkeeper Coach: Tony Franken
National Technical Manager: Ron Smith
Strength / Conditioner: Anthony Crea
Physiotherapist: Les Gelis
Masseur: Luke Attwell
Doctor: Dr Andrew Jowett
Gear Steward: Dominic Rabsch
Media Manager: Stuart Hodge
TV Unit: Lindsay McNeill

	Name	Club	Country
1	Mark **SCHWARZER**	Middlesbrough	England
2	Kevin **MUSCAT**	Melbourne Victory	Australia
3	Craig **MOORE**	Uncontracted	
4	Lucas **NEILL**	Blackburn Rovers	England
5	Tony **VIDMAR**	Cardiff	Wales
6	Tony **POPOVIC**	Crystal Palace	England
7	Brett **EMERTON**	Blackburn Rovers	England
8	Josip **SKOKO**	Genclerbirligi	Turkey
9	Mark **VIDUKA**	Middlesbrough	England
10	Tim **CAHILL**	Everton	England
11	Scott **CHIPPERFIELD**	Basel	Switzerland
12	Michael **PETKOVIC**	Trabzonspor	Turkey
13	Vince **GRELLA**	Parma	Italy
14	Simon **COLOSIMO**	Perth Glory	Australia
15	Michael **THWAITE**	National Bucuresti	Romania
16	Luke **WILKSHIRE**	Bristol City	England
17	Jonathan **McKAIN**	National Bucuresti	Romania
18	Zeljko **KALAC**	Perugia	Italy
20	Ljubo **MILICEVIC**	FC Thun	Switzerland
21	Ahmad **ELRICH**	Busan I'Cons	Korea
22	Archie **THOMPSON**	Melbourne Victory	Australia
23	Mile **STERJOVSKI**	Basel	Switzerland

Match Officials

Match Referee: Mike Dean
Assistant Referees: Peter Kirkup
Mike Tingey
Fourth Official: Andre Marriner

Squads correct at time of printing

Squad List: New Zealand

Head Coach: Ricki Herbert

Assistant Head Coach: Brian Turner

Assistant Head Coach: Stu Jacobs

National Goalkeeping Coach: Mick Leonard

National Team Docto: Dr Celeste Geertsema

National Physiotherapist: Roland Jeffery

Massage Therapist: Wade Irvine

Resource Manager: Phil Warbrick

National Team Manager: Stephen Williamson

NZS Chief Executive Officer: Graham Seatter

NZ Soccer Media Officer: Andrew Dewhurst

#	Players Name	Club	Age	Intl Games	Position
1	Mark **PASTON**	Walsall FC	28	8	Goalkeeper
18	Glen **MOSS**	NZ Knights FC	22	0	Goalkeeper
6	Che **BUNCE**	Waikato FC	29	23	Defender
5	Daniel **HAY**	NZ Knights	29	21	Defender
2	Steven **OLD**	St Johns Uni	19	4	Defender
3	Jeremy **CHRISTIE**	Gisborne City FC	22	0	Defender
13	Craig **WYLIE**	Waitakere Utd	21	0	Defender
4	David **MULLIGAN**	Doncaster Rovers	23	11	Midfielder
7	Ivan **VICELICH**	Roda JC	28	53	Midfielder
16	Tim **BROWN**	Richmond Kickers	24	1	Midfielder
15	Raffaele **de GREGORIO**	HJK Helsinki	27	21	Midfielder
12	Michael **WILSON**	Minnesota Thunder	24	5	Midfielder
11	Leo **BERTOS**	Rochdale FC	23	6	Forward
8	Vaughan **COVENY**	Sth Melbourne FC	33	71	Forward
10	Brent **FISHER**	FC Energie Cottbus	21	7	Forward
9	Chris **KILLEN**	Oldham Athletic FC	23	22	Forward
17	Shane **SMELTZ**	AFC Wimbledon	23	7	Forward
14	Noah **HICKEY**	NZ Knights	26	23	Forward

Player Profiles: New Zealand

Leo **BERTOS**

Date of birth: 20.12.81
Position: Midfield/Striker
Club: Rochdale AFC (Eng)
Height: 1.77m
Weight: 79kg
Honours: NZ Secondary Schools, All White
First club played for: Wellington Olympic
Other Clubs (in order): Barnsley (Eng), Rochdale
Biggest influence on your career: My father
Favourite Player: Ronaldo
Favourite Club and why: AC Milan – I grew up watching them in the 90's at a time when they were the best team in the world.
Ambition: To play in one of the highest and best leagues in Europe
What is it like playing for Rochdale: It is great to be playing in a professional environment week in week out at Rochdale.
Other hobbies or activities in downtime: Going to the movies, listening to music.
How do you prepare for a big game: Rest and eat the right food and take on plenty of liquids.

Tim **BROWN**

Date of birth: 6-3-81
Position: Midfield
Club: Richmond Kickers
Height (cm): 6'1
Weight (kgs): 80
Honours: NZ U20, NZ U23, ALL WHITES 2004
First club played for: Waterside Karori
Other Clubs (in order): Miramar Rangers, University Of Cincinnati, Richmond Kickers
Family: Parents – Jeff & Pauline, Brother - Paul
Biggest influence on your career: Terry Oughton, Stu Jacobs and Jeff Cook
Favourite player and why: Roy Keane – Desire to win
Favourite Club and why: Manchester United See above answer
Ambition: Qualify for World Cup with All Whites, Play in the UK one day.
Other hobbies or activities in downtime: Degree in Graphic Design

Che **BUNCE**

Date of birth: 290876
Position: Central defender
Club: Waikato Fc
Height (cm): 191
Weight (kgs): 88
Honours: All NZ age group rep
NZ Caps: 23
NZ Goals & When: 2 goals, 98 vs Vanuatu, 04 vs Fiji
First club played for: Junior; Huntly thistle, Senior; Waikato United
Other Clubs (in order): Sheffield United, Napier City Rovers, Breidablik (Iceland), Randers FC(Denmark)
Family: Mum and dad and older brother, Married with son Zac
Favourite player and why: Zidane-has everything
Ambition: To get NZ to a world Cup
Other hobbies or activities in downtime: Golf

Jeremy **CHRISTIE**

Date of Birth: 22/05/83
Position: Midfield
Club: Gisborne City
Height (cm): 180
Weight (kgs): 74
Honours: NZ U16, U17, U20, U22
NZ Caps: 0
First club played for: Whangarei FC
Other Clubs (in order): Mt Albert Grammar, Barnsley FC, Football Kingz, Waitakere Utd
Family: Mum, Dad, 1 Brother. Single
Biggest influence on your career: Kevin Fallon
Favourite Player and why: Steven Gerrard. Liverpool captain, inspirational and great workrate.
Favourite Club and why: Liverpool. *Family history.*
Ambition: Play Premier League.
Other hobbies or activities in downtime: Playstation, Basketball.

Raffaele **DE GREGORIO**

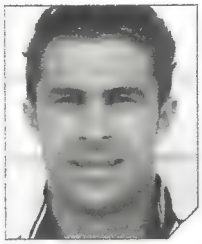
Date of birth: 20th May 1977
Club: HJK Helsinki, Finland
Height (cm): 178cm
Weight (kgs): 75Kg
Honours: All Whites Confed Cup Campaign, All White National Squad, U23 New Zealand Olympic Squad, New Zealand U20, New Zealand U17
First club played for: Island Bay, Wellington
Other Clubs (in order): HJK Helsinki, Finland (2 years), Jokerit, Finland, Football Kingz , NZ, Clyde FC, Scotland – Div 1, Juve Stabia, Italy Serie C, FC Dordrecht, Holland Div 1 (2 years), Bohemians FC, Ireland, Western Suburbs, NZ
Family: Nunzio (father), Francesca (mother), Francesca (Sister), Antonio (brother), Loredana (my princess/niece)
Biggest influence on your career: My Parents
Favourite player and why: Diego Maradona – he made winning a showpiece
Favourite Club and why: Napoli, a great club lifted to greatness by a great player, Maradona
Ambition: To win matches playing football people want to watch
Other hobbies or activities in downtime: Fishing, Movies, Travelling

Brent **FISHER**

Date of birth: 6.7.83
Position: Striker
Club: FC Energie Cottbus (Germany)
Height: 1.85m
Weight: 82kg
Honours: NZ U17, U20, U23 All Whites
First club played for: St Albans Shirley
Other Clubs (in order): Christchurch United, Canterbury
Family: Mum, Dad and one brother
Biggest influence on your career: My Dad
Favourite Player: Thiery Henry
Favourite Club and why: Real Madrid
Ambition: To play at the highest level
Other hobbies or activities in downtime: Going to the beach.
How do you prepare for a big game: Rest, eat and drink well.

Daniel **HAY**

Date of Birth: 15.5.75
Position: Defender
Club: N Z Knights
Height (cm): 1.93cm
Weight (kgs): 92kg
Honours: U23, National Team
First club played for: Green Bay Titirangi FC
Other Clubs (in order): Waitakere City FC, Central United FC, Perth Glory, Leeds Utd, Walsall FC, Kingz/Knights
Family: Dad – Sport, Mum Margaret, Sister; Stacey, Alesha. Married: Diane, No Children
Biggest influence on your career: Jim Dale
Favourite Player and why: Lucas Radebe – he is a legend
Favourite Club and why: Leeds United – because
Ambition: NZ Knights to win the inaugural Hyundai A League
Other hobbies or activities in downtime: Golf



Noah **HICKEY**

Date of birth: 9th June 1978
Position: Striker
Club: Knights FC
Height (cm): 1.75cm
Weight (kgs): 75kg
Honours: U20 & U23 National Team, All Whites
First club played for: Eastern Suburbs FC
Other Clubs (in order): University FC, Central United FC, Kingz FC, Tampere United (Finland)
Family: Mum: Sally, Dad: David, Josh, Jemimah, Sam (brothers & Sister)
Biggest influence on your career: Father, Grandfather
Favourite player and why: Ronaldo – composure & Scoring ability
Favourite Club and why: Knights FC – I play there
Ambition: Win A-League with Knights FC
Other hobbies or activities in downtime: Champs Sports

Neil **JONES**

Date of Birth: 16/2/82
Position: Striker
Club: East Coast Bays AFC
Height (cm): 6' 4"
Weight (kgs): 88Kg
Honours: NZ U17, U12, U23 & All Whites
First club played for: Rangitoto FC
Other Clubs (in order): Dunedin Technical , Waitakere City, University of Santa Barbara

Family: Mum – Fran, Dad – Barry, Brothers – Glyn & Dan, Sister – Laura
Biggest influence on your career: Family
Favourite Player and why: Jan Koller – great target man who scores goals
Favourite Club and why: Everton – my dad grew up near Merseyside
Ambition: To be successful at whatever I do
Other hobbies or activities in downtime: Golf, Watching Sport

Glen **MOSS**

Date of birth: 19/01/83 Hastings N.Z
Position: Goalkeeper
Club: NZ Knights FC
Height: 192cm
Weight: 85kg
Honours: N.Z u/20,23's. All Whites v Iran 2003. N.S.L Champions (Sydney Olympic 2000/2001)
First Club: Runaway Bay (Gold Coast, AUS) **Other Clubs:** Broadbeach, Gold Coast City.
Family: mum, dad, brother, sister (charmaine, brian, jason, greer)
Biggest Influence: Senior Players (they always have something to offer)
Fav Player: Peter Schmeichel
Fav Club: Real Madrid (so entertaining)
Ambition: To become a regular player in the All Whites
Hobbies: Surfing, Swimming
Prepare For A Match: Relax and listen to music

David **MULLIGAN**

A player who first starred for NZ at the FIFA U17 World Champs in 1999, scoring in the 2-1 over Poland. Has since forged a career as a professional in England with Barnsley FC and lately with Doncaster Rovers.
Position: Defender/Midfielder
Date of birth: 24 Mar 1982
Height: 1.73m
Weight: 66kg
Current Club: Doncaster Rovers
Previous Club: Barnsley FC (Eng)
International Appearances: ("A"/Other): 11 Goals ("A"/Other): 0
Debut: 19.06.02 v China Olympic Squad
Other Representative Honours: NZ U17, U20, U23

Steven **OLD**

Date of birth: 17.02.1986
Position: Defender
Club: St John's University
Height (cm): 188 cm
Weight (kgs): 85 kg
Honours: NZ U17, NZ U20, NZ U23, NZ Young Player of the Year 2003
NZ Caps: 4
NZ Goals & When: 0
First club played for: Riverside AFC
Other Clubs (in order): VV Noordwijk (Holland), PNBHS, Manawatu AFC, PN Marist
Family: Mum (Jan), Sister (Stacey), Brother (Chris) and Nana (Beth)
Biggest influence on your career: Family
Favourite player and why: John Terry. Cool, calm, composed a leader and a role model.
Favourite Club and why: Arsenal. I supported them when I was growing up. When I was small Mum bought me an Arsenal scarf and supported them ever since.
Ambition: Play in a top league in Europe, earn my degree and be a successful person.
Other hobbies or activities in downtime: Golf, Movies and cards.

Mark **PASTON**

Date of birth: 13th December 1976
Position: Goalkeeper
Club: Out of Contract
Height (cm): 1.95cm
Weight (kgs): 90kg
Honours: U23 National Team, All Whites
First club played for: Napier City Rovers
Other Clubs (in order): Bradford City FC, Walsall FC
Family: Mum: Christine, Dad: John, Brothers: James, Simon, Andrew (twin)
Biggest influence on your career: Bobby Clark/Mick Waitt
Favourite player and why: Zidane
Favourite Club and why: Liverpool FC
Ambition: Play professionally for as long as possible
Other hobbies or activities in downtime: Snowboarding, Fishing

Shane **SMELTZ**

Date of birth: 29.9.81
Position: Striker
Club: AFC Wimbledon
Height: 1.85m
Weight: 80kg
Honours: NZ U20, AW
First club played for: Oratea
Other Clubs (in order): Adelaide United, Napier City Rovers, Brisbane Strikers

Family: One sister
Biggest influence on your career: Many coaches through the years.
Favourite Player: Thiery Henry
Favourite Club and why: Arsenal, simply because I enjoy their style of play.
Ambition: To have a successful career and play for a big club in Europe.
Other hobbies or activities in downtime: Gym, beach, time with friends.
How do you prepare for a big game: I tend to relax before a match and start to focus on my role within the team.

Vaughan **COVENY**

Date of birth: 13/12/71
Position: Striker
Club: South Melbourne
Height (cm): 190cm
Weight (kgs): 85kg
Honours: NZ Caps 71, NZ Goals & When 28
First club played for: Porirua Viard
Other Clubs (in order): Waterside Karori, Miramar Rangers.
Family: Mum, Dad (Barry and Maria), 2 Sisters (Vanessa and Andrea), Wife (Mira) and Daughter(Karla)
Biggest influence on your career: Family
Favourite player and why: Thiery Henry cause of his out and out attacking flair.
Favourite Club and why: Liverpool – Supported since I was a youngster
Ambition: Enjoy my Football and be happy in Life
Other hobbies or activities in downtime: Having fun with my daughter takes up the majority of my free time.

Ivan **VICELICH**

Date of birth: 03/09/76
Position: Midfielder
Club: Roda JC
Height (cm): 192cm
Weight (kgs): 84kgs
Honours: NZ U/17,U/20,U23, All White, NZ Young Player of the Year 1994, 3 x Chatham Cup , NZ International Player of the Year 2002, NZ Caps 54, NZ Goals & When 7 goals
First club played for: Massey Afc
Other Clubs (in order): Waitakere City, Central United, Football Kingz
Family: Married to Marisa
Biggest influence on your career: Family
Favourite player and why: Maradona
Favourite Club and why: AC Milan
Ambition:
Other hobbies or activities in downtime: Cards

Adrian **WEBSTER**

Date of Birth: 11.10.80
Position: Midfield
Club: Darlington
Height (cm): 175
Weight (kgs): 76
Honours: FA Youth Cup. Runner up at St George[aus].
First club played for: Charlton Athletic [uk]
Other Clubs (in order): Colchester [uk], St George, Darlington
Family: Mum, Dad Two Brothers and Fiancee
Biggest influence on your career: Mum and Dad
Favourite Player and why: David Beckham. Mental Attitude
Favourite Club and why: Arsenal, 'cause their unbeatable
Ambition: To hit the top of my profession
Other hobbies or activities in downtime: Hit the shops.

Mike **WILSON**

Date of birth: 25/11/80
Position: Midfield
Club: Minnestota thunder
Height (cm): 180cm
Weight (kgs): 76kg
Honours: NZ U17, NZ U20, NZ Secondary Schools, Senior National team, NZ Caps 4,
First club played for: Western Suburbs
Other Clubs (in order): Vannes Olympique Club (France), Team Wellington, Minnesota Thunder
Family: Dad- David, mum – Lesley, Brother Matt, Sister Bec
Biggest influence on your career: Pieter Lehrer
Ambition: To stay healthy
Other hobbies or activities in downtime: Getting to the beach/lake

Craig **WYLIE**

Craig Wylie first made his name as a teenager with the Football Kingz and has since developed into a technically sound and ferocious tackling left sided player, happy at either fullback or midfield. Craig first played for Western Springs and admires David Beckham for his exceptional crossing abilities and the fact he leads by example. Craig's ambition is to play at the highest level and was first selected in an All Whites squad to play Australia in June 2005.
Position: Left back / Midfield
Date of birth: 10.02.84
Height: 1.75m
Weight: 72kg
Current Club: Waitakere City (NZFC: Waitakere United)
Previous Club: Lynn Avon Utd, Mt Albert Grammar, Waitakere City, Kingz FC, Waitakere Utd
International Appearances ("A"/ Other): 0
Goals ("A"/Other): 0
Other Representative Honours: NZ U/17

Herbert Makes History

by Paul Moon

A fresh era dawns for New Zealand football tonight; this being its national senior selection's first match under a native born Kiwi coach.

The event represents a significant milestone. Usually known as soccer in the Land of the Long White Cloud, the sport there was, for numerous decades, dominated by British immigrants.

Ricki Herbert is proud of his pioneering role, though acknowledging a debt owed to "Poms" in the past. When he participated as a central defender in New Zealand football's proudest moment - qualification for the 1982 World Cup finals - Herbert lined up alongside three Englishmen, three Scots and an Irishman.

The side's two coaches were a Lancastrian and a Yorkshireman.

The group he brings to London will, however, be comprised, almost exclusively, of locally developed players.

In the period since Espana '82, the Kiwis have experienced countless ups and downs, with the latter, alas, outnumbering the former.

A chronic lack of money has bedevilled New Zealand and heavily compromised its aspirations. Tonight will be the All Whites' first outing for a year and three days.

Financial problems have dogged domestic football too; being the prime reason for the national league undergoing ceaseless restructuring since its inception in 1970. It is currently an eight strong competition, known as the New Zealand Football Championship, and involving both clubs and provincial selections.

1982 remains New Zealand's sole World Cup finals appearance, however it can boast of having twice qualified for the FIFA Confederations Cup.

The exploits of Wynton Rufer also created a great deal of national pride. Only a teenager when facing Scotland, U. S. S. R. and Brazil in Spain, Rufer went on to become a true superstar by helping Werder Bremen win German domestic and European honours. He was named "Oceania's Footballer of the (Twentieth) Century".

Further proof New Zealand is capable of producing top quality players comes in the shape of Ryan Nelsen.

Nelsen was a revelation during the latest English Premier League season in the heart of Blackburn Rovers' defence and, on that form, there is little he can't achieve in Europe.

Unfortunately, Herbert will be without the services of Nelsen - who would otherwise have been his captain - due to injury.

Furthermore, club commitments have forced Ivan Vicelich, a skilful linkman with Roda J. C. in Holland, to withdraw from the squad.

Nevertheless New Zealand can still muster a bevy of European based professionals, albeit none with pedigrees as impressive as Nelsen or Vicelich.

Goalkeeper Mark Paston has gained English League experience with Bradford City and Walsall during the last two seasons. Now unattached, he will doubtless be endeavouring to catch the eye of potential employers at Craven Cottage.

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*Source: bbc.co.uk

Dave Mulligan deserves considerable credit for Doncaster Rovers' revival in the lower echelons of the English League. Formerly with Barnsley, midfielder Mulligan is Liverpool born but New Zealand raised.

Fellow linkman Raffaele de Gregorio's heritage is Italian, but he calls Wellington home and has a cosmopolitan c. v., including clubs in Ireland (Bohemian), Holland, Italy, Scotland (Clyde) and is today with Finnish high flyers H. J. K. Helsinki.

Leo Bertos hails from the New Zealand capital's Greek community, though plying his trade at Rochdale of the English fourth division. The pacy winger is one of six graduates from the Kiwis' 2004 Olympic (Under 23) selection chosen for the Craven Cottage encounter.

Another Wellingtonian, Chris Killen is employed one level higher than Barton on the English pyramid, with Oldham Athletic. Previously a prolific scoring Manchester City reserve, his career has been blighted by injuries. Now reported to be fully fit, the twenty three year old promises to be a major weapon in Herbert's armoury.

Shane Smeltz's club attachment is misleading. Sought by Mansfield Town in the English fourth division, financial considerations led him to join ambitious A. F. C. Wimbledon two grades lower. German by birth and Australian raised, Smeltz qualifies for New Zealand courtesy of his naturalised, American born, father.

Brent Fisher is a German resident, having progressed through the New Zealand amateur league and the now defunct Australian National Soccer League, to join Old World professional ranks.

One of Herbert's biggest headaches will be to choose which forwards to field. As well as Smeltz, Killen, Fisher and Bertos, he can call upon veteran Vaughan Coveny, the party's most experienced campaigner with 71 caps. Coveny has spent a large portion of his career at former Australian N. S. L. outfit South Melbourne, where he achieved icon status.

Although Coveny's age has probably precluded him from involvement in the new Australian fully professional Hyundai A-League, Danny Hay promises to be a high profile figure in that greatly anticipated competition, which kicks off in August. He is to captain his country's standard bearers, the New Zealand Knights.

Full back Hay is amongst just three Kiwis to have featured in the English Premier League. Sadly, his stint with Leeds United was destroyed through injuries and he has also spent frustratingly long periods on the sidelines since returning to Auckland. Now believed to be back at peak fitness, a lot will be expected of the stand in skipper this evening.

A noteworthy feature of contemporary New Zealand football is the large volume of youth players whom have gained soccer scholarships to American universities. This trend was commenced by Bobby Clark, best known in Britain as a Scottish international goalkeeper capped 17 times in the late 60s and early 70s.

Briefly the New Zealand coach before exasperation with financial constraints induced his resignation, Clark then moved to California's Stanford

All Whites' Official Game Chant

(In the style of Waltzing Matilda)

Once the jolly Roo's squad came to have a kick about
under the eye of Aussie Frankie
and he cried as he watched and waited for the final whistle blow
as in went the goals one, two and three
Waltzing Matildas, Waltzing Matildas
you play like your girls team and wear ballet shoes
you prance and you dance you haven't got a blimin' chance
Waltzing Matildas your game plan is poo.

nikefootball.com

University. There he began to tap into the rich reservoir of raw talent observed while Down Under. Ryan Nelsen was an early beneficiary and some, like current squad members Michael Wilson and Tim Brown, as well as Nelsen, remained in North America to pursue professional careers.

Other universities followed suit and Steve Old, New Zealand's most promising young player, studies at St. John's University in New York.

Teenager Old, a six foot three inches tall defender, is the son of Geoff Old, who made three test appearances for the nation's revered rugby union team, the All Blacks. Like a growing number of Kiwis, Old plumped for football over rugby as his winter sporting activity when at school.

It surprises many to learn football is actually a more popular participation sport in New Zealand than what is often referred to as the national obsession. A recent survey revealed 274,500 New Zealanders play football and 258,400 rugby union.

The fifteen man code indisputably prevails as the country's dominant spectator sport, as Che Bunce will testify. Bunce played before attendances around the 1,000 mark while wearing the colours of Waikato F. C. in the inaugural New Zealand Football Championship earlier this year. The erstwhile Sheffield United youth player enjoyed an outstanding campaign and should add to his 23 caps in London SW6.

Bunce is one of eight to have survived New Zealand football's darkest day - the 4 - 2 loss at the hands of unrated Vanuatu twelve months ago which effectively eliminated the All Whites from the World Cup qualifying series. Had Nelsen, Vicelich and University of Santa Barbara defender Tony Lockhead been available, the figure would be eleven.

They were then under the wing of Englishman Mick Waitt, an ex Notts County striker. Herbert has resisted the temptation for widespread changes and given what is, beyond much doubt, the finest personnel at his disposal the chance to redeem themselves.

What cynics might unfairly dismiss as a band of gypsies and journeymen has proven its capacity to surprise. Victories against Australia in 1998 and 2002 are recalled by the Kiwi soccer fraternity with particular relish.

A 1 - 1 draw with Scotland at Tynecastle Park, Edinburgh in May, 2003 is another performances which won deserved plaudits. However, it is traditional rivals Australia whom invariably bring out the best in the Kiwis and nothing would give them greater pleasure than throwing a spanner into Frank Farina's works as he prepares for the Confederations Cup.

Neutrals knowing little of trans-Tasman rivalry need just to remind themselves how the Welsh and Scots love knocking over England in sporting contests to gain an impression of the desire that will be welling up in the New Zealanders' dressing room as they prepare for battle.

The one thing the debutant mentor need have no concern about is providing his charges with motivation.

Paul Moon is the Oceania correspondent for World Soccer magazine

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Scott Chipperfield

By Matthew Hall

As Harry Kewell danced gingerly on the winners' podium in Istanbul after Liverpool's miraculous UEFA Champions League victory last month another Australian was already contemplating next season's tournament.

Scott Chipperfield is fast becoming a European veteran. Every year guarantees new stamps in a passport that that has been carried from his home in Bellambi, near Wollongong, to Basel, Manchester, Valencia, Milan, Glasgow, Rotterdam, and Turin.

Chipperfield plays for Basel in the Swiss Nationaliga, the team wrapping up its third Championship in four years last month to cement a place in next year's UEFA Champions League.

This year's Swiss Championship had a strong Australian influence. Basel, which also stars Qantas Socceroo Mile Sterjovski and former Perth Glory wunderkind Ivan Ergic among its ranks was involved in a duel with Ljubo Milicivic's FC Thun that went to the wire.

"It was a tough season this year for us," Chipperfield says. *"There are a lot of good teams in the league now after it was cut from 12 teams to 10. Ljubo's team kept us going right to the end. They had a very good season. It was only the last four or five games where we kicked away from them."*

Basel is Switzerland's top club on many levels. Although it cannot compete financially with Chelsea or Manchester United it has performed consistently on the pitch in past UEFA Champions League campaigns.

"Basel is a big club and we've done well in the Champions League recently as well as in the UEFA Cup," Chipperfield says. *"Each year our main aim is to win the league in Switzerland and qualify for the Champions League."*

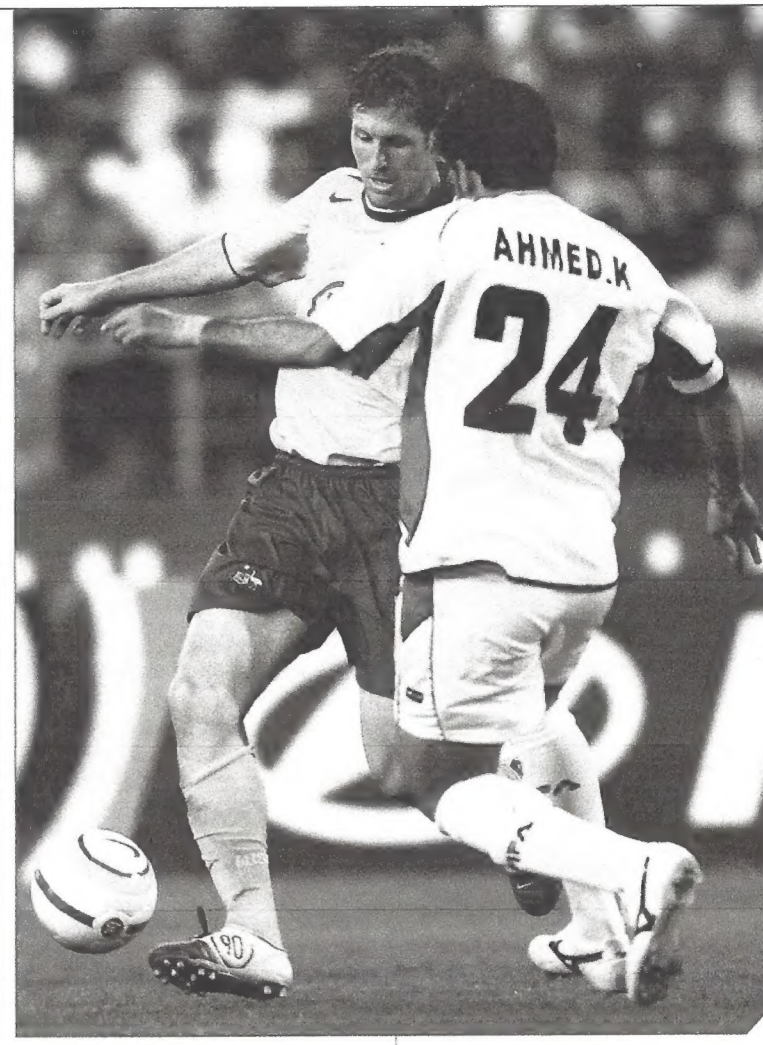
"With Switzerland not being so high in UEFA's rankings we have to go into a qualifying round. Last year we drew Inter Milan and got knocked out early so it sometimes depends on the luck of the draw."

Evidence: In 2002-2003 Basel beat Glasgow Celtic home and away to qualify for the Champions League group stages and undertake an odyssey that saw the Swiss side take on Juventus, Manchester United, Spartak Moscow, Liverpool, Deportivo La Coruña, and Valencia.

Many would have expected Basel to struggle but the team was only eliminated from the group stages on goal difference after a Chipperfield inspired 1-1 draw, against Manchester United at Old Trafford.

"Playing at Old Trafford is a highlight," Chipperfield says. *"We drew 1-1 and if we had beaten them we would have progressed to the knock-out round but we finished level on points with Juventus and we lost on goal difference."*

"Other teams take us seriously because that year we finished in the first group stage as runners up to Valencia and knocked Liverpool out," Chipperfield remembers. *"We beat Juventus in Basel, beat*



Deportivo in Basel, and drew with Liverpool both times we played them."

"In this year's UEFA Cup we beat Feyenoord and drew with Schalke away which was a tough game. We compete with all the top teams in Europe and you want to play against the best teams. When you play against David Beckham you are always going to be learning something. It is always a step up."

Basel is Switzerland's biggest club and draws close to 33,000 fans to each near sell-out home game, according to the Australian. Basel boast 20,000 season ticket holders and even away games are packed with travelling supporters.

With Mile Sterjovksi, also from near Wollongong, joining "Chippers" in Switzerland at the start of last season there are distinct Australian accents in the dressing room and the boys from Basel also make an effort to catch up with other Australian players in Switzerland when time allows.

"We meet up with Ljubo Milicevic quite a lot because he comes to Basel quite a bit," explains Chipperfield. "He is about an hour drive away and was at the club for a season. He has a lot of friends here."

"Joel Griffiths is also playing in Switzerland (with Neuchatel Xamax) but we only see him when we play because they are a bit further away. Our coach (former Tottenham boss Christian Gross) seems to like Australians but they treat us as any other foreigner. We have four Argentineans in our team as well as a Brazilian."

Chipperfield moved to Switzerland after winning back-to-back National Soccer League titles with Wollongong Wolves in 2000 and 2001. Since then, his Champions League performances and consistent Swiss form has attracted interest from clubs in England and Germany in recent seasons but is settled in Switzerland and recently signed a new four-year deal with Basel.

Although he laughs when asked how he copes with the language Chipperfield is a de-facto local having married a Swiss woman, adding a son to their family last year.

"There were couple of offers to go to England and Germany at the start of last season but the club knocked them back," the 29-year-old says. *"I'm happy here. My wife is from Basel as well. Her family is here and it is easier with the little feller as well."*

"My German is as good as when I first came," he laughs. *"My wife speaks it of course but I can't at all. Me and Mile both had a few lessons but after three or four we reckoned we had enough."*

And his kid? Will we see a tug of love between Australia and Switzerland when both national federations no

Chipperfield in action for home-town club, Wollongong Wolves in 2001

doubt swoop for his services in 20 years time?

"He will play for Australia," laughs Chipperfield. *"I have three more years here and then after that we will probably move back and settle in Australia."*

Chipperfield's own breakthrough with the Qantas Socceroos came in that historic and forever memorable night in east London in February 2003. To remind any English readers: Australia 3, England 1.

"Beating England was great," Chipperfield says. *"I started the game when I didn't expect to. It was a great atmosphere and everyone was keen to beat them. There was a lot of talk that England would smash us but it was the other way around. There is a lot of rivalry between us so it was good to actually beat them."*

Australia's meeting with New Zealand begins preparation for the 2005 Confederations Cup and the upcoming World Cup qualifiers. Chipperfield says the adoption of London as the Qantas Socceroos' home away from home has been great for players and fans.

"There are a lot of Aussies in England so it is good to play in London," he says. *"Everyone enjoys it. We don't have to travel as much and we are playing on good fast pitches which makes it easier for us to play good entertaining football. We have had some good games there against top teams."*

"The Confederations Cup is going to be tough. We have Germany, the host nation, and they are going to want to win every game."

"That is a tough opener followed by another easy game against Argentina," he laughs. *"But we have to take it seriously, as these are the last main games before the World Cup qualifiers."*

"At the last Confederations Cup we beat France 1-0 when they were World Cup holders and we should have beaten Japan in the semi-final. We then beat Brazil in the third and fourth play off. It shows that anything really can happen."

Last February, Chipperfield struck one of the best ever goals scored in an Australian shirt. Australia was trailing in a friendly against South Africa in Durban. The Wollongong wonder came on as a substitute in the 57th minute and changed the game when a sweet 20-metre volley rocketed off his foot into the back of the net.

It was a goal for which clichés were invented: net-buster, game-saver, poetry in motion. Plain brilliant will do, as well.

"It was set up nicely and I just hit it and it went in," Chipperfield says, feet on the ground. *"That doesn't come along too often so it was good to score for the national team. We were down 1-0 as well. It's good to score in important games. That substitution came off, for sure."*

The goal reinforced the role Chipperfield has with the national team. As Australia embarks on the most important five months in recent international history, coach Frank Farina has marked Chipperfield to step up and claim the left-side role his own in light of both Harry Kewell and Stan Lazaridis being sidelined with injury.

But even after scoring a wonder goal, Chipperfield could be asked to bolster Australia's defence, playing as a left-back.

"I haven't spoken to Frank Farina about it but it was in the paper in Australia and my mum phoned up to say that I might be playing left full-back," Chipperfield says. *"So long as I'm in the starting eleven I don't mind where I play. I started off at Wollongong as a wing-back and played a few games at Basel as a full-back."*

"I will play anywhere for Australia," he says.

Matthew Hall writes for the Sun-Herald, The Sunday Age, The Guardian, and When Saturday Comes. A revised and updated edition of his book on Australian footballers in Europe, The Away Game, will be published in 2006.

Winning Partnership

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